

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
U.S. Appl. No.: 09/874,313  
Attorney Docket No.: Q64869

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended): ~~AA~~ rewritable optical recording medium comprising a recording layer containing, as a photoresponsive material, metal chalcogenide nanoparticles, wherein the metal chalcogenide nanoparticles have an average particle size of 1 to 20 nm and have a surface modified with an adsorbable compound, and

the recording layer is a layer formed by preparing the metal chalcogenide nanoparticles as a colloidal dispersion by a chemical synthesis, and applying the colloidal dispersion, wherein the colloidal dispersion is prepared by the steps of:

(1) mixing a precursor solution containing: at least one element selected from the elements of the groups 8, 1B and 2B and the 4th to 6th periods of the groups 3B, 4B and 5B of the Periodic Table; and a precursor solution containing at least one element selected from the elements of the group 6B of the Periodic Table, in a high-boiling organic solvent at 100 to 350°C in an inert gas atmosphere, so as to react the precursors to form a reaction mixture including nanoparticles;

(2) adding a flocculant to the reaction mixture obtained in step (1) to aggregate and precipitate the nanoparticles, and separating the precipitated nanoparticles from a supernatant liquor in the resulting reaction mixture;